



PATENT
716909.22

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application of: Thomas B. Thrash, Jr. : Examiner: Hepperle, Stephen M
Serial No.: 10/604,676 : Species Art Unit: 3753
Filed: August 8, 2003 : Attorney Docket No.: 716909.22
For: CHATTER RESISTANT SHUTTLE :
VALVE : Customer No.: 027128
Last Office Action: June 20, 2005 : Confirmation No.: 1675

RESPONSE

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Responsive to the Restriction Requirement dated June 20, 2005, Applicant hereby elects for prosecution at this time Species I as shown in Fig. 1. The election of Species I is made with traverse without prejudice to the elected Species I and without prejudice to the non-elected Species, Figs. 2-11.

In response to the requirement for election of a species, Applicant provisionally elects with traverse the species found in claims 1-18. Claim 1, as currently written, is believed to be generic.

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the requirement for restriction are respectfully requested. The Applicant contends that Species I-VII are closely related and have a common utility. Specifically, Species I-VII contain a similar shuttle valve.

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Response to Restriction Requirement

The Applicant further contends that the Species I-VII don't pose a serious burden for the examiner by requiring separate searches.

Because Applicant may wish to pursue claims of the non-elected Species at a later date by Divisional Application, if necessary, it is requested that these claims, pursuant to 37 CFR 1.142, be permitted to remain in the application, but withdrawn from examination.

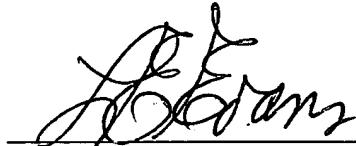
This response does not present any new matter. Accordingly, as all requirements of the Action have been complied with, an action on the merits and a Notice of Allowance are hereby respectfully solicited.

If any issue regarding the allowability of any of the pending claims in the present application could be readily resolved, or if other action could be taken to further advance this application such as an Examiner's amendment, or if the Examiner should have any questions regarding the present amendment, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner please telephone Applicant's undersigned attorney in this regard.

Respectfully submitted,

Date:

7/14/05



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